

REMARKS

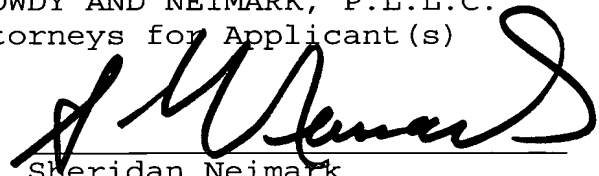
Claims 1-16 presently appear in this case. The above amendments are made to correct the claim dependencies of those claims which are improperly multi-dependent so that such claims will be placed in better form for U.S. practice. Such amendments are made entirely without prejudice to applicants' rights to later present claims of varying scope encompassed by the multi-dependencies deleted above, applicants respectfully reserving their right to add claims at a later stage commensurate in scope with claims which may have been eliminated by the removal of all multi-dependencies. The amendments made above are thus made without dedication, disclaimer, abandonment, waiver, forfeiture, renunciation, concession, and/or surrender of any kind. The amendments made above are not "narrowing" amendments. The scope of the claims has not been reduced; no limitations have been added and none are intended.

Applicant now respectfully awaits the results of a first examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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